

Please amend the abstract to read as indicated below:

A process is described for distributing network configuration settings throughout a network having ~~comprising~~ a set of devices~~[[,]]~~. The process includes ~~including~~ the steps of: establishing in at least one device a description of the network environment; detecting in the ~~said~~ at least one device a request from a newly connected requesting device; in response starting a first timer with a first period dependent on a predetermined criterion; and transmitting network setting to the ~~said~~ requesting device ~~network settings~~ after the expiration of the ~~said~~ first period.